TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 8, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 3 totaled an estimated 17.8 billion ton-miles, 2.1 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 44 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 788.6 billion ton-miles, 12.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 3 totaled 387,289, down 4.7 percent from last year, but 4.3 percent above the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 13.9 percent in the East, 0.1 percent in the South and 1.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 12 of the 21 commodity groups declined. Of the commodities showing gains, crushed stone, gravel and sand had the largest increase -- 2,179 cars (19.4 percent). Seventeen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 27 totaled 57,122 cars, up 10.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 94,077 trailers and/or containers, 2.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 43 weeks of the year was 2,216,484 cars, 14.9 percent higher than last year, and 3,797,669 trailers and/or containers, up 13.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/03/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Nov. 3, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,482	D	4,147	12.3	I	5,443	18.5
Other farm products	5,785	I	249	4.5	I	1,040	18.0
Metallic ores	14,554	D	4,225	22.5	I	1,158	8.0
Coal	99,399	D	13,958	12.3	I	4,275	4.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,399	I	2,179	19.4	D	201	1.5
Nonmetallic minerals	12,399	I	787	6.8	I	187	1.5
Grain mill products	10,730	D	226	2.1	I	148	1.4
Food and kindred products	11,712	D	406	3.4	I	429	3.7
Primary forest products	13,537	D	1,894	12.3	I	288	2.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,364	I	76	1.0	I	167	2.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,232	I	210	1.4	I	198	1.3
Chemicals and allied products	23,613	D	918	3.7	I	164	0.7
Petroleum products	4,518	D	382	7.8	D	45	1.0
Stone, clay and glass products	11,108	D	519	4.5	I	233	2.1
Coke	5,392	I	187	3.6	I	429	8.0
Metals and products	8,792	I	89	1.0	I	889	10.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,467	I	991	5.1	I	825	4.0
Waste and scrap materials	8,761	D	293	3.2	D	148	1.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,993	D	927	10.4	I	33	0.4
All other carloads	62,859	I	4,326	7.4	I	434	0.7
LCL traffic	193	D	107	35.7	D	2	1.0
Total Cars Loaded	387,289	D	18,908	4.7	I	15,944	4.3
Corresponding week of 1983	406,197						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (44 weeks)	17,414,227	16,011,093	I 8.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
43 weeks ended October 27	770.9	685.2	I 12.5
Week ended November 3	17.8	18.1	D 2.1
44 weeks cumulative	788.6	703.3	I 12.1

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